

(323) 881-2401

April 11, 2003

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION: INTENT TO FILE A REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF  
A SOLE SOURCE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) MAINTENANCE  
AGREEMENT**

In accordance with your Board's direction, this memorandum provides advance notification that the Fire District intends to file a request for Board approval of a sole source agreement. The planned agreement will renew an existing multi-year maintenance agreement with Northrop Grumman PRC Public Sector, Inc. (PSI), scheduled to expire on June 30, 2003. The planned agreement will be the third multi-year agreement with PSI since the original agreement was approved by your Board in 1992.

In addition to maintenance services, the planned agreement will include system upgrade services for the Department's existing Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) System, which was originally developed by PRC in 1988. The upgrade portion of the proposed agreement will be completed within Fiscal Year 2003/2004, at a cost of \$750,000. The multi-year maintenance services shall be for a term of five (5) years. Pending further negotiations, the five-year cost of the planned agreement is anticipated to be approximately \$2,100,000, inclusive of the upgrade.

### **PURPOSE FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the agreement with PSI is to continue existing professional services that, when partnered with the Fire Department efforts, have historically ensured an optimal systems and operational environment for the Fire Department's 24/7 9-1-1 emergency dispatching system. The highly specialized services contained in the planned agreement are required to ensure continuous, uninterrupted CAD operations, directly impacting the health and safety of County residents as well as firefighters and paramedics.

The system upgrade portion of the agreement is essential to "refresh" equipment that has been in place since 1995. The upgrade is the most cost effective and efficient means to protect the Fire Department's 13-year investment in the highly customized CAD system. It will also allow the Department to ensure system stability for at least another five to seven years.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

In 1987, as the result of a competitive bid process, the Board of Supervisors approved a \$25.6 million, four-year project for the design and implementation of a Fire Command and Control system and facility. The contract was awarded to PRC Public Management Services, Inc, which is now known as Northrop Grumman PRC Public Sector Inc., (PSI). Since implementation in 1991, the management and day-to-day oversight of these critical life-safety systems has been very successfully managed via a partnership between the Fire Department and PSI. In 1992, the first five-year agreement, for \$2.8 million was approved. In 1997, the second five-year agreement, with an option for an additional year, was issued for \$2.2 million. As referenced above, the planned agreement is currently budgeted at \$2.1 million.

Although the Fire Department retains ownership of all hardware and customized software enhancements provided under previous agreements, PSI retains a proprietary right to the core CAD system including the switching software and source code. Consequently, PSI is the only vendor who can adjust, alter, or modify the Department's CAD system.

The system upgrade that PSI will provide encompasses the delivery, installation, and integration of various hardware and software that could possibly be purchased from various independent vendor resources. It is extremely vital however, that all hardware and software installed be compatible with the existing system.

Additionally, it is critical that the CAD message switching software be modified to operate on the new hardware and run seamlessly with existing PSI software. Consequently, it has been determined that PSI, as the single system integrator, could be held solely responsible for ensuring that all system components are compatible with and interface with the existing CAD system.

The Chief Information Officer is aware of and supports the Department's continued use of a sole source agreement for these critical services.

Unless your Board instructs the Department to stop within the next two weeks, the Fire Department will proceed with negotiations with PSI. Further communications to your Board will seek approval to renew this agreement.

Should additional information be required, please contact me or Janette Parker, Chief, Information Management Division, at (323) 890-4147.

PMF:JP:seb

(boardmemocad)

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